

## Population

**Indicator 1: Number of Older Americans** (*partially updated*)

**Indicator 2: Racial and Ethnic Composition** (*updated*)

**Indicator 3: Marital Status** (*updated*)

**Indicator 4: Educational Attainment** (*updated*)

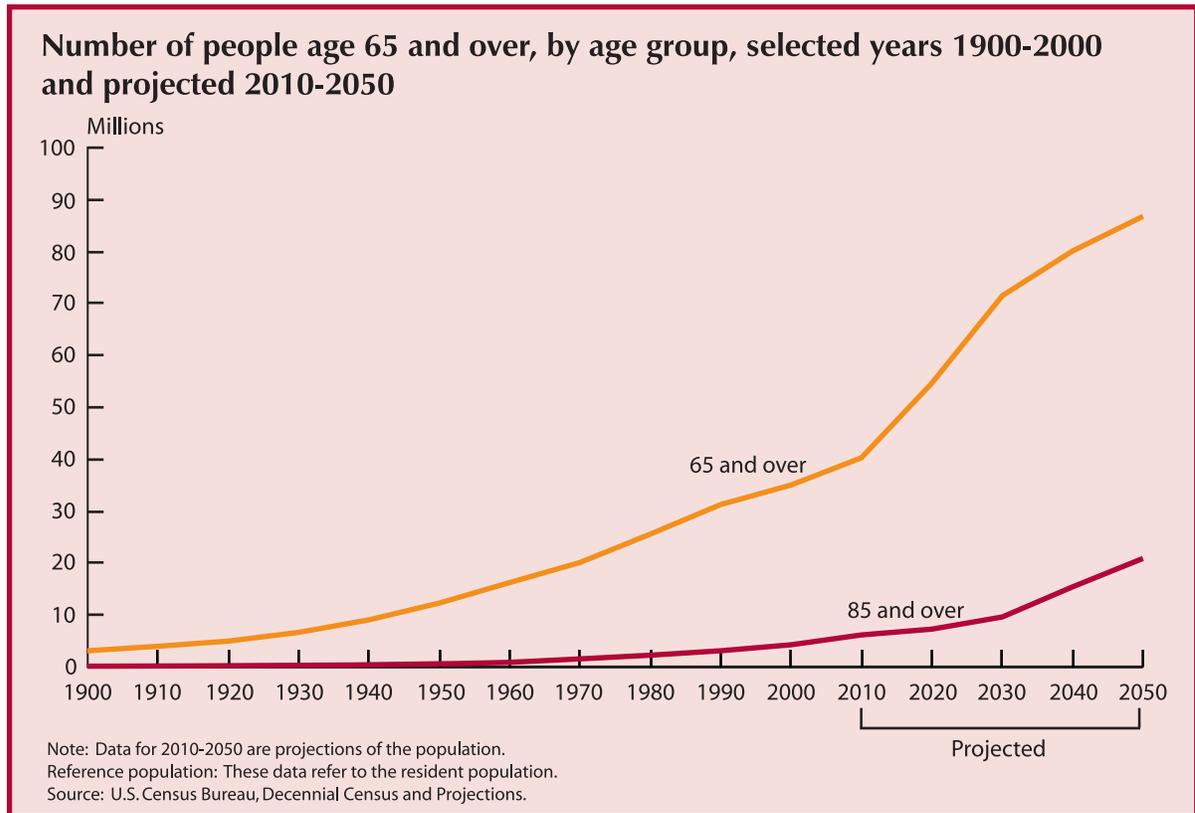
**Indicator 5: Living Arrangements** (*updated*)

**Indicator 6: Older Veterans**

## INDICATOR 1

### Number of Older Americans

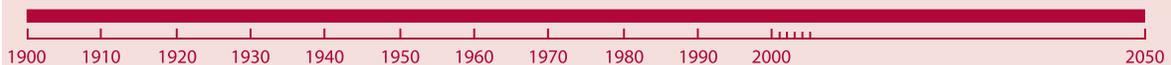
The growth of the population age 65 and over affects many aspects of our society, challenging policymakers, families, businesses, and health care providers, among others, to meet the needs of aging individuals.



Additional information for this indicator can be found at [www.agingstats.gov](http://www.agingstats.gov).

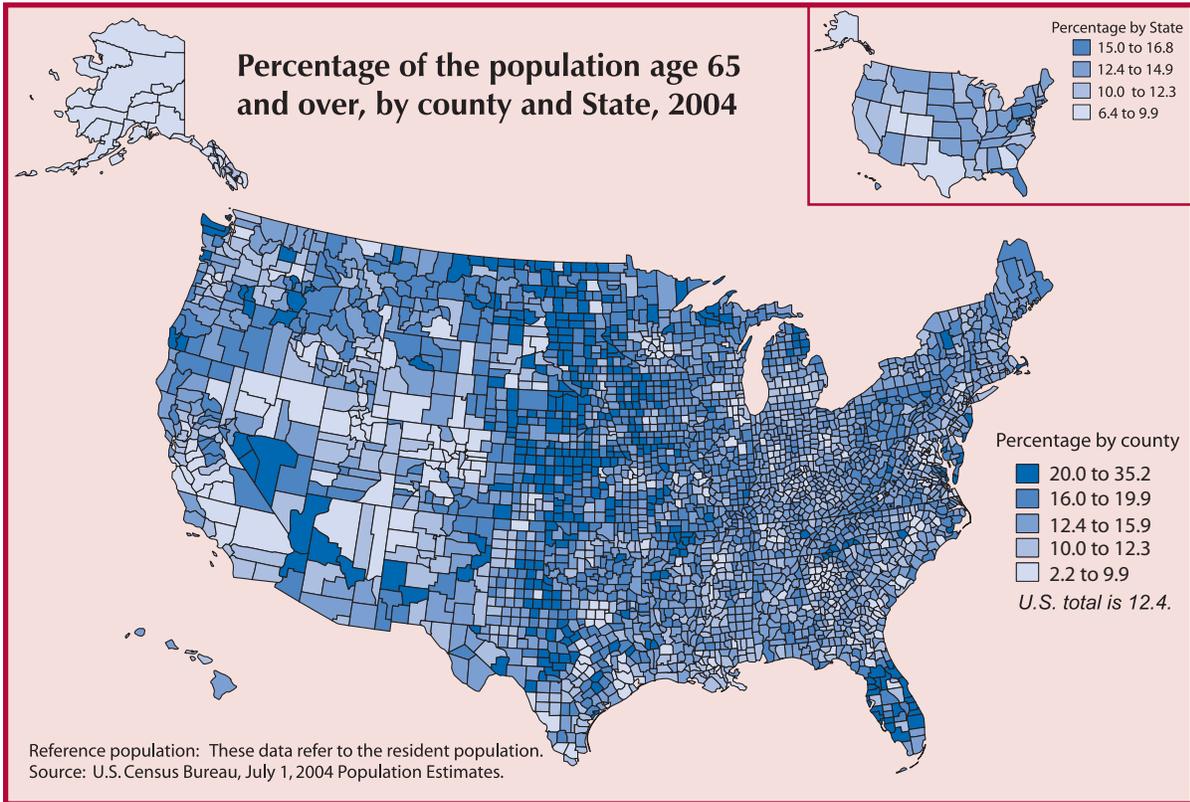
**Number of people age 65 and over and 85 and over, selected years 1900-2000 and projected 2010-2050 (Last updated in *Older Americans 2004*)**

Year	65 and over	85 and over	Year	65 and over	85 and over
Estimates			Projections		
	In millions			In millions	
1900	3.1	0.1	2010	40.2	6.1
1910	3.9	0.2	2020	54.6	7.3
1920	4.9	0.2	2030	71.5	9.6
1930	6.6	0.3	2040	80.0	15.4
1940	9.0	0.4	2050	86.7	20.9
1950	12.3	0.6			
1960	16.2	0.9			
1970	20.1	1.5			
1980	25.5	2.2			
1990	31.2	3.1			
2000	35.0	4.2			



## INDICATOR 1

Number of Older Americans continued



Additional information for this indicator can be found at [www.agingstats.gov](http://www.agingstats.gov).

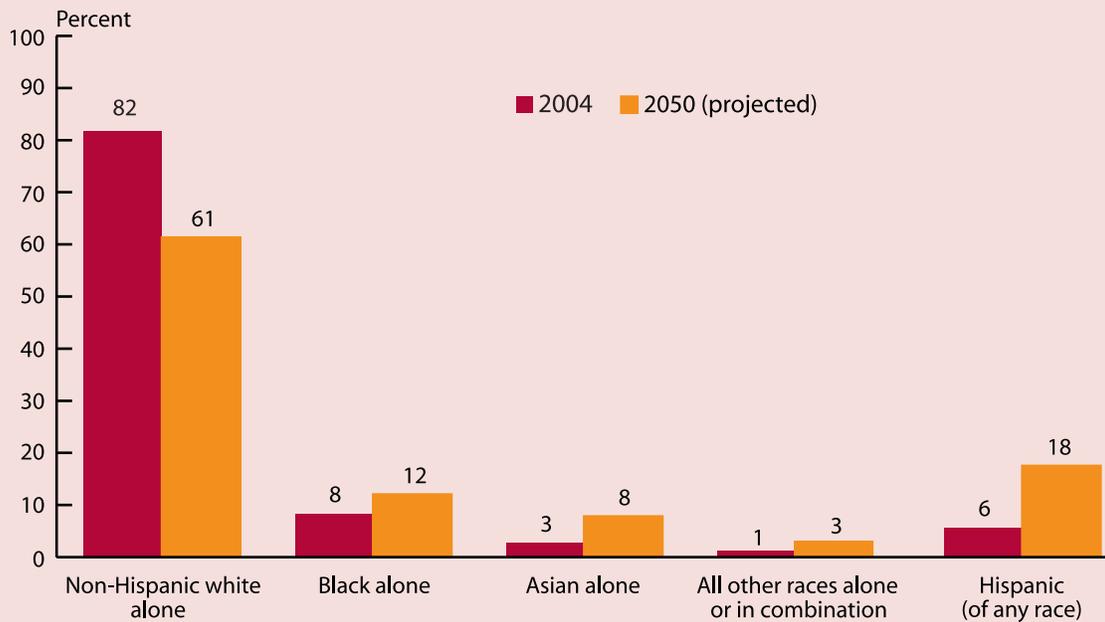
*Data for this indicator's chart can be found in tables 1d and 1e on pages 60 and 61.*

## INDICATOR 2

### Racial and Ethnic Composition

As the older population grows larger, it will also grow more diverse, reflecting the demographic changes in the U.S. population as a whole over the last several decades. By 2050, programs and services for older people will require greater flexibility to meet the needs of a more diverse population.

**Population age 65 and over, by race and Hispanic origin, 2004 and projected 2050**



Note: The term “non-Hispanic white alone” is used to refer to people who reported being white and no other race and who are not Hispanic. The term “black alone” is used to refer to people who reported being black or African American and no other race, and the term “Asian alone” is used to refer to people who reported only Asian as their race. The use of single-race populations in this report does not imply that this is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The U.S. Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches. The race group “All other races alone or in combination” includes American Indian and Alaska Native, alone; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, alone; and all people who reported two or more races.

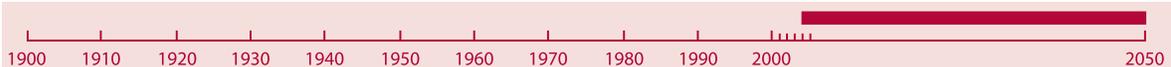
Reference population: These data refer to the resident population.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates and Projections, 2004.

Additional information for this indicator can be found at [www.agingstats.gov](http://www.agingstats.gov).

**Population age 65 and over, by race and Hispanic origin, 2004 and projected 2050**

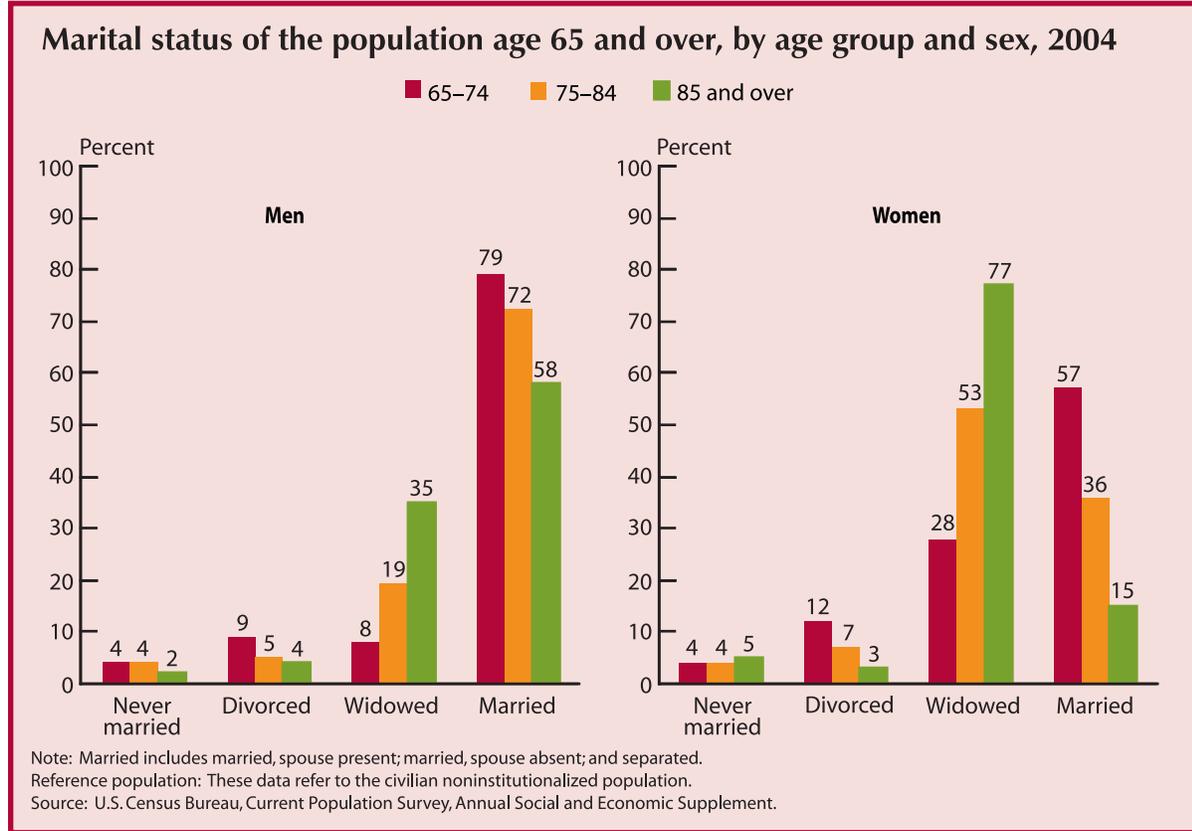
Race and Hispanic origin	2004 estimates	2050 projections
	Percent	
Total	100.0	100.0
Non-Hispanic white alone	81.9	61.3
Black alone	8.4	12.0
Asian alone	2.9	7.8
All other races alone or in combination	1.2	2.7
Hispanic (of any race)	6.0	17.5



**INDICATOR 3**

**Marital Status**

Marital status can strongly affect one’s emotional and economic well-being. Among other factors, it influences living arrangements and the availability of caregivers for older Americans with an illness or disability.



Additional information for this indicator can be found at [www.agingstats.gov](http://www.agingstats.gov).

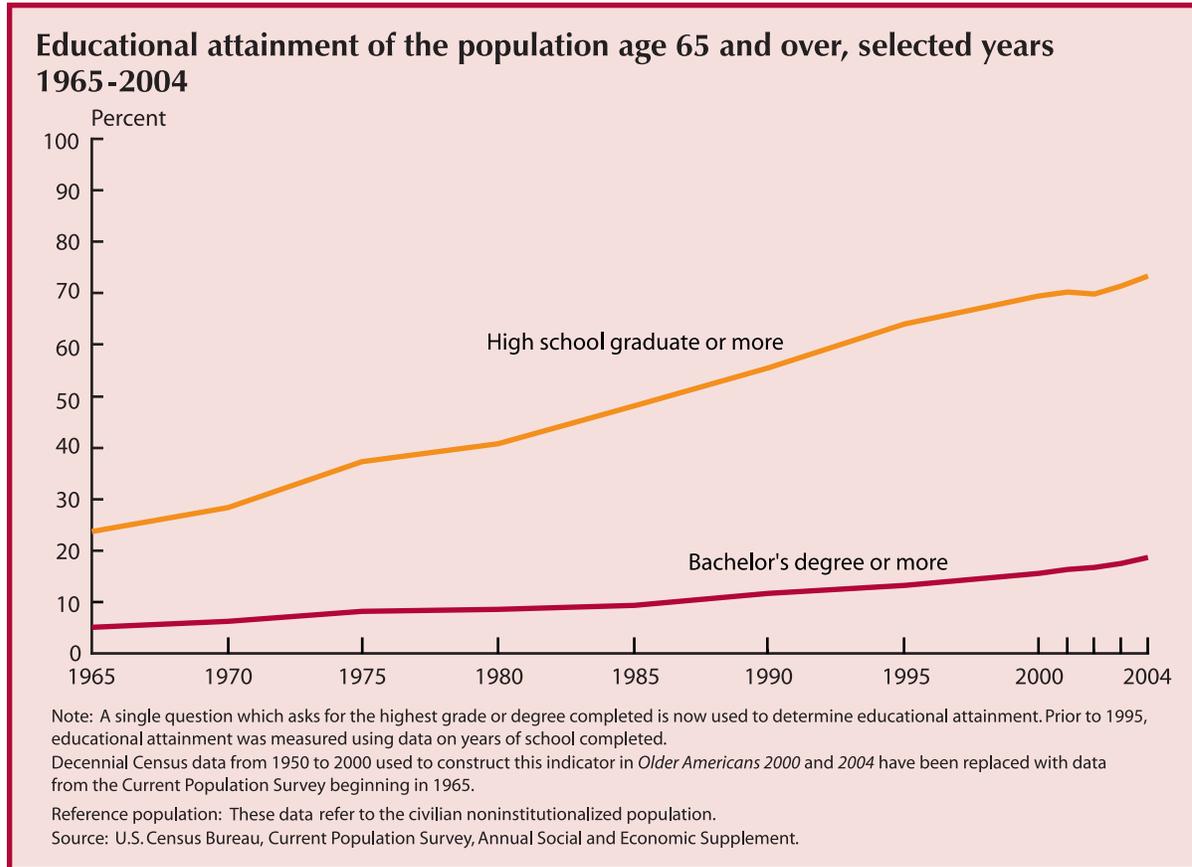
**Marital status of the population age 65 and over, by age group and sex, 2004**

Selected characteristic	65-74	75-84	85 and over
Percent			
<b>Men</b>			
Married	<b>79.4</b>	<b>72.4</b>	<b>58.3</b>
Widowed	<b>7.5</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>35.1</b>
Divorced	<b>8.7</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Never married	<b>4.4</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>
<b>Women</b>			
Married	<b>56.6</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>15.1</b>
Widowed	<b>28.0</b>	<b>53.2</b>	<b>77.1</b>
Divorced	<b>11.7</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>3.2</b>
Never married	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>

## INDICATOR 4

### Educational Attainment

Educational attainment influences socioeconomic status, which in turn plays a role in well-being at older ages. Higher levels of education are usually associated with higher incomes, higher standards of living, and above-average health.



Additional information for this indicator can be found at [www.agingstats.gov](http://www.agingstats.gov).

**Educational attainment of the population age 65 and over, selected years 1965-2004**

Educational attainment	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
	Percent											
High school graduate or more	23.5	28.3	37.3	40.7	48.2	55.4	63.8	69.5	70.0	69.9	71.5	73.1
Bachelor's degree or more	5.0	6.3	8.1	8.6	9.4	11.6	13.0	15.6	16.2	16.7	17.4	18.7

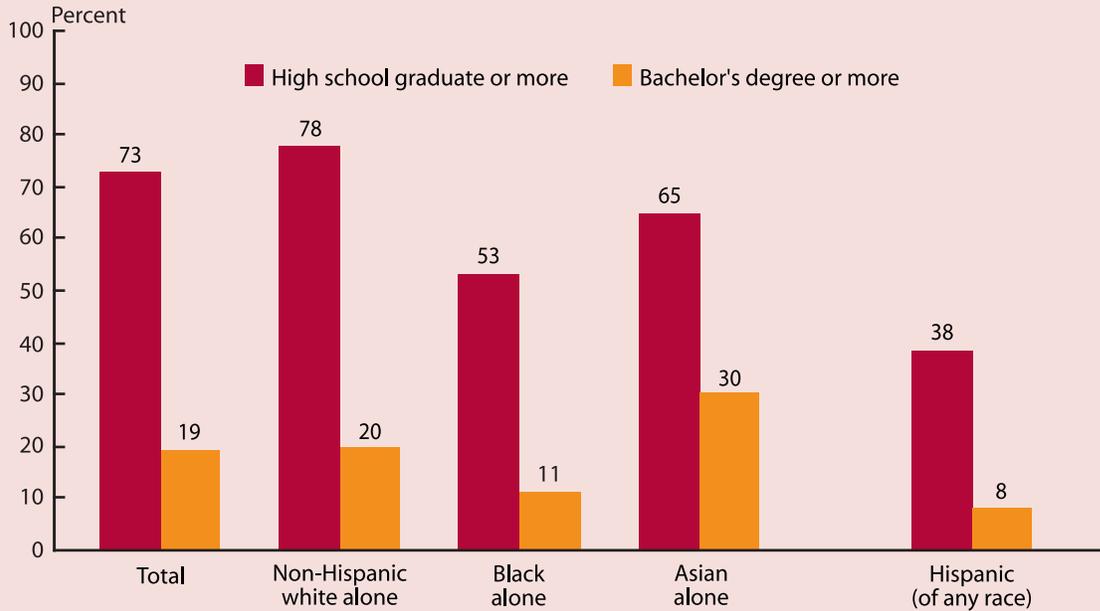
Note: Decennial Census data from 1950 to 2000 used to construct this indicator in *Older Americans 2000* and *2004* have been replaced with data from the Current Population Survey beginning in 1965.



## INDICATOR 4

### Educational Attainment continued

#### Educational attainment of the population age 65 and over, by race and Hispanic origin, 2004



Note: The term "non-Hispanic white alone" is used to refer to people who reported being white and no other race and who are not Hispanic. The term "black alone" is used to refer to people who reported being black or African American and no other race, and the term "Asian alone" is used to refer to people who reported only Asian as their race. The use of single-race populations in this report does not imply that this is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The U.S. Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches.

Reference population: These data refer to the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

Additional information for this indicator can be found at [www.agingstats.gov](http://www.agingstats.gov).

#### Educational attainment of the population age 65 and over, by race and Hispanic origin, 2004

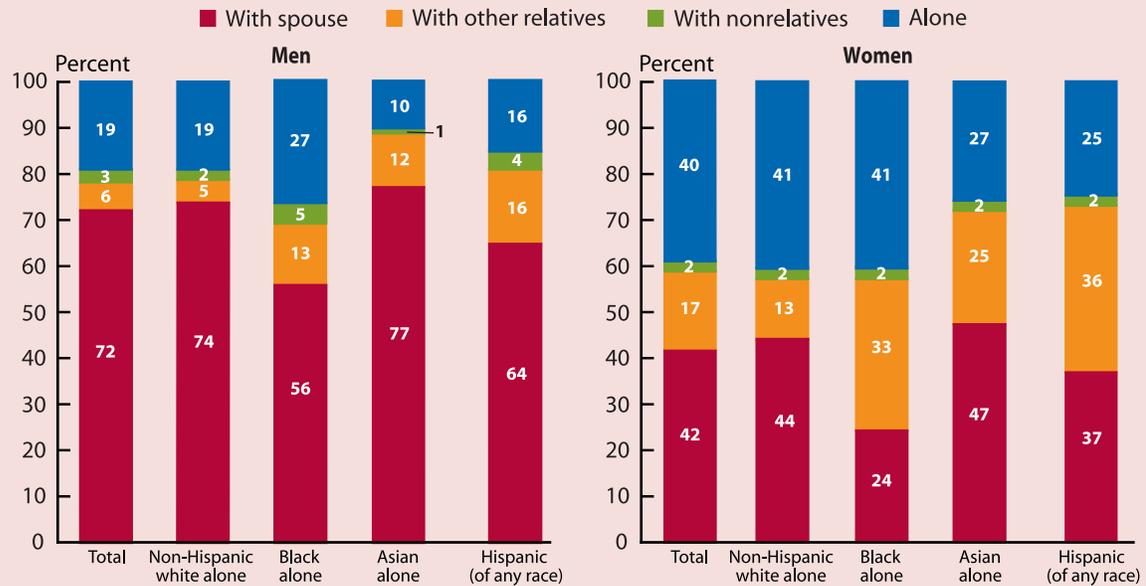
<i>Race and Hispanic origin</i>	<i>High school graduate or more</i>	<i>Bachelor's degree or more</i>
	Percent	
Total	<b>73.1</b>	<b>18.7</b>
Non-Hispanic white alone	<b>78.0</b>	<b>19.8</b>
Black alone	<b>52.5</b>	<b>10.7</b>
Asian alone	<b>64.8</b>	<b>29.8</b>
Hispanic (of any race)	<b>37.6</b>	<b>8.3</b>

## INDICATOR 5

### Living Arrangements

The living arrangements of America's older population are important indicators because they are linked to income, health status, and the availability of caregivers. Older people who live alone are more likely than older people who live with their spouses to be in poverty.<sup>1</sup>

**Living arrangements of the population age 65 and over, by sex and race and Hispanic origin, 2004**



Note: Living with other relatives indicates no spouse present. Living with nonrelatives indicates no spouse or other relatives present. The term "non-Hispanic white alone" is used to refer to people who reported being white and no other race and who are not Hispanic. The term "black alone" is used to refer to people who reported being black or African American and no other race, and the term "Asian alone" is used to refer to people who reported only Asian as their race. The use of single-race populations in this report does not imply that this is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The U.S. Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches.

The data for this indicator in *Older Americans 2004* were incorrect. The erratum is on the Forum's Web site at [www.agingstats.gov](http://www.agingstats.gov).

Reference population: These data refer to the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

Additional information for this indicator can be found at [www.agingstats.gov](http://www.agingstats.gov).

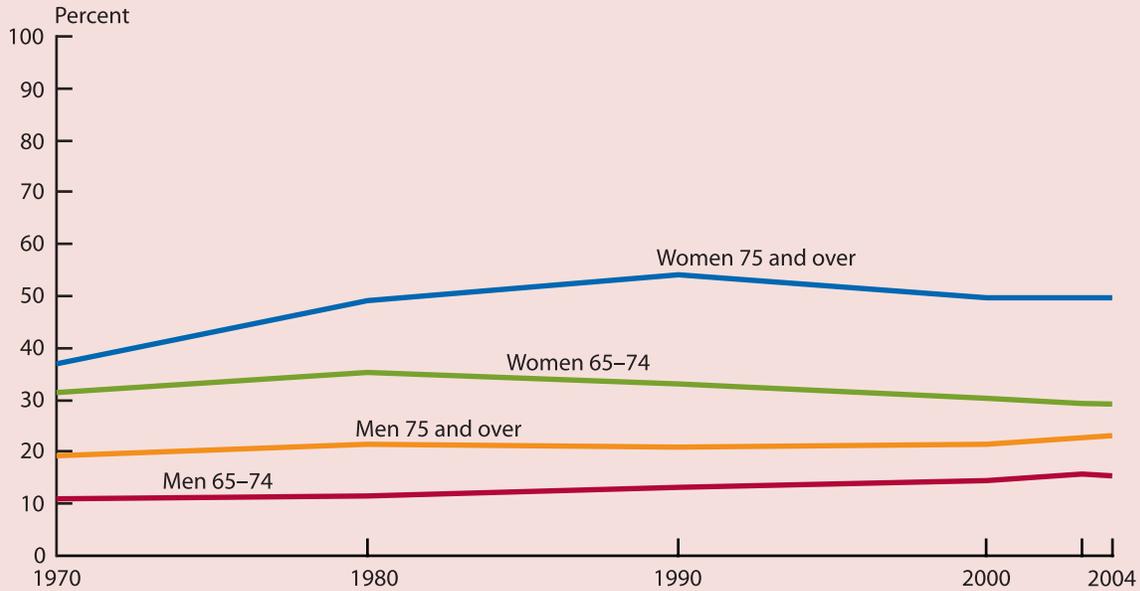
**Living arrangements of the population age 65 and over, by sex and race and Hispanic origin, 2004**

Selected characteristic	With spouse	With other relatives	With nonrelatives	Alone
Men				
Percent				
Total	72.4	6.1	2.7	18.8
Non-Hispanic white alone	74.3	4.5	2.4	18.7
Black alone	55.6	13.0	4.9	26.6
Asian alone	77.0	12.0	1.1	9.9
Hispanic (of any race)	64.4	16.3	3.6	15.7
Women				
Total	41.6	16.8	1.9	39.7
Non-Hispanic white alone	43.7	13.3	1.9	41.1
Black alone	23.9	32.6	2.2	41.4
Asian alone	47.1	24.8	1.7	26.7
Hispanic (of any race)	37.1	36.0	2.1	24.8

**INDICATOR 5**

Living Arrangements continued

**Population age 65 and over living alone, by age group and sex, selected years 1970-2004**



Reference population: These data refer to the civilian noninstitutionalized population.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

Additional information for this indicator can be found at [www.agingstats.gov](http://www.agingstats.gov).

**Population age 65 and over living alone, by age group and sex, selected years 1970-2004**

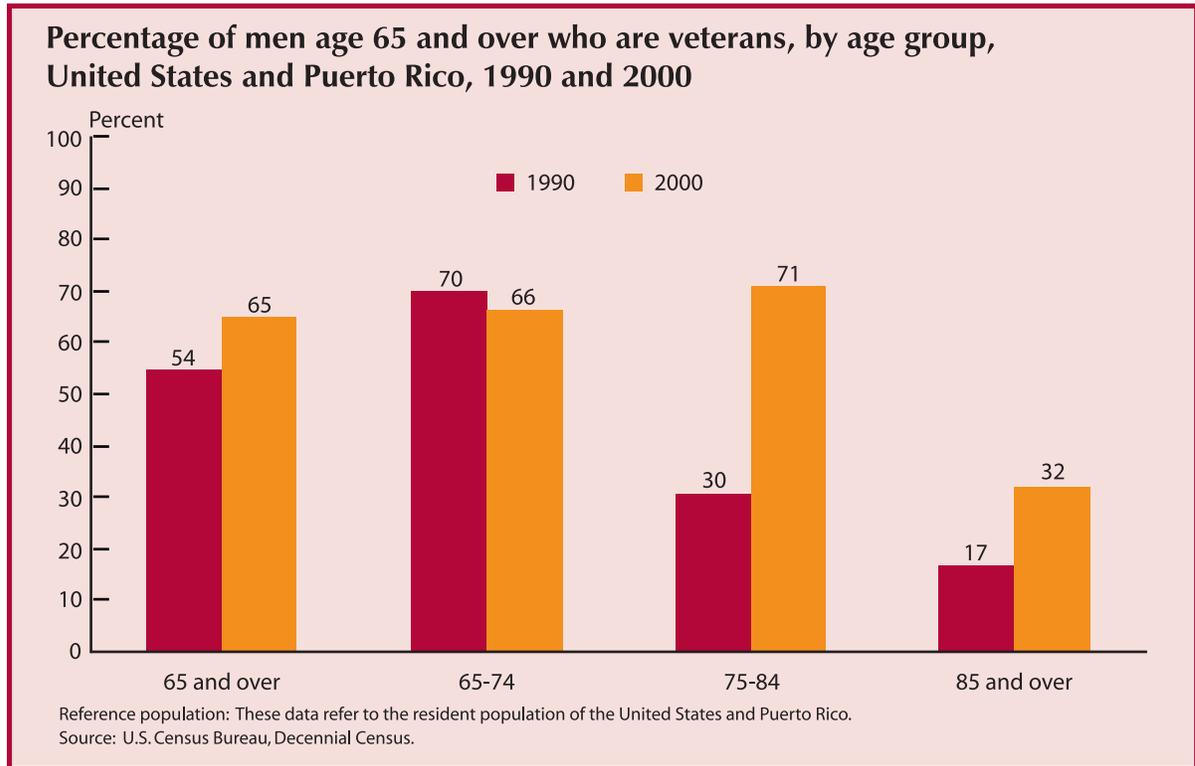
Year	Men		Women	
	65-74	75 and over	65-74	75 and over
Percent				
1970	11.3	19.1	31.7	37.0
1980	11.6	21.6	35.6	49.4
1990	13.0	20.9	33.2	54.0
2000	13.8	21.4	30.6	49.5
2003	15.6	22.9	29.6	49.8
<b>2004</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>49.9</b>



## INDICATOR 6

### Older Veterans

According to Census 2000, there were 9.8 million veterans age 65 and over in the United States and Puerto Rico, composed mainly of the sizeable World War II, Korean War, and, increasingly, Vietnam era cohorts; two of three men age 65 and over were veterans.



Additional information for this indicator can be found at [www.agingstats.gov](http://www.agingstats.gov).

**Percentage of men age 65 and over who are veterans, by age group, United States and Puerto Rico, 1990 and 2000 (Last updated in *Older Americans 2004*)**

Year	65 and over	65-74	75-84	85 and over
Percent				
1990	54.2	69.7	30.0	16.6
2000	64.9	66.3	70.7	32.3

